

REMARKS/DISCUSSION:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed along with a Request for Continued Examination, which also accompanies a Petition to Revive.

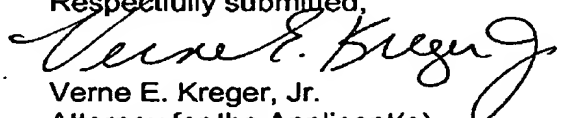
By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 18-28 are pending in this application. Claims 1-17 have been canceled.

Conclusion

Should any minor points remain prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required to Account No. 10-0750/END-696/VEK. This Authorization is being submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,



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